

AMERICAN DRAGON
"THE SHAGGY FROG"
(777A-223)

TEASER

INT. SCHOOL LOCKER ROOM - DAY

ON SPUD - in a pair of pink boxers. He looks annoyed.

1 SPUD
Okay, joke's over. You've played
your little game, now give me my
clothes.

SMASH OUT REVEALS - Spud is talking to his gym locker. He jiggles the handle, but the door will not open. As he talks, he tries everything to get the door open - backspin on the combination lock, tapping the handle, and finally pounding the door in frustration. Nothing works.

2 SPUD
<efforts> Come on, stupid locker
A96, open UP! I overslept, missed
breakfast, and I am in no mood to
be standing here in boxers that got
stained pink by the powdered
gelatin I left in my pockets for
reasons I am not explaining to you!
<frustrated punching effort>

NEW ANGLE - JAKE is in the foreground, already changed into his gym clothes, tying his shoes. In the BG, Spud storms O.S.

3 JAKE
Yo Spud, need some help with that
gym locker?

Suddenly, Spud comes flying back in, delivering an airborne karate kick to his locker. He bounces right off and lands on his back on the floor.

4 SPUD (PARTIAL O.S.)
<incoming doppler yell, then impact
grunt, then pained> No, I got it.

With a <CREEEEEAK>, the door of a large locker above Spud's swings open. Spud looks up with dread.

5 SPUD
Shatterin' shinguards! Not the
equipment locker...

One by one, pieces of gym equipment fall out onto Spud's prone belly: BASKETBALL, SOFTBALL, LACROSSE STICK, etc.

6 SPUD
 (pained, with each hit)
Basketball! Softball! Lacrosse!
Discus!

ON JAKE - as he calmly finishes tying his shoes - they've run this routine before. There's a <ROLLING RUMBLE>.

7 SPUD (O.S.)
Hey, when did we get a bowling--
<impact, then weakly> teeeeeeam...?

Jake walks over to Spud's locker, extending his DRAGON CLAWS.

8 JAKE
Come on, we're already late for
P.E. Just lemme use a little
dragon claw on this bad boy.

As Jake starts to pick Spud's lock with his claws--

Spud jumps to his feet, suddenly panicked. He throws the bowling ball off of his midsection and tries to pull Jake away from the locker.

9 SPUD/JAKE
No! This is between me and the
locker! <efforts> / <efforts> Just
let me do it, Spud!

The door pops open, revealing a collage of amateurish artwork taped to the inside: drawings of a Jake-like dragon boy with Spud's school picture taped on as the head. The artwork is labeled, "The Spud-ical Dragon."

ON JAKE AND SPUD - Jake surprised, Spud embarrassed.

10 JAKE
The Spud-ical Dragon?

Spud slams the locker shut.

11 SPUD
Okay, so now you know my secret
dream! I hope you're happy!

12 JAKE
I thought your dream was to live in
a chocolate house and raise
marshmallow animals.

13 SPUD
No, that's my plan. My dream is to
be a magical-powered hero like you.

14 JAKE
Aw, Spud, come on now. It's not
all that being a magical hero.
Besides, you've got your own Spud
thing going on. People respect
that.

SMASH TO:

EXT. SCHOOL FIELD - DAY

BRAD and STACEY (in baseball caps) stand in front of the
teams they've picked for a P.E. softball game (Jake and
TRIXIE are on Stacey's team). A KID IN A WHEELCHAIR wheels
over to Stacey's team.

15 BRAD
Uhhh... I pick Sleepy Keith.

REVERSE - the only kids left are Spud (in ill-fitting gym
clothes) and a CHIPPER-LOOKING KID. Chipper heads over.

16 CHIPPER-LOOKING KID
Hot dog! I'm gonna hit me a game-
winning home-- <snore>

Chipper-Looking Kid suddenly drops face-first to the dirt,
sound asleep.

17 STACEY
<sigh> Fine. We'll take what's-his-
loser.
(to Spud)
But you're playing extreme right
field.

Off Spud's confusion:

CUT TO:

EXT. SCHOOL PARKING LOT - MOMENTS LATER

Spud walks along a sidewalk at the edge of the faculty
parking lot. He turns back.

18 SPUD
(calling out)
Is this extreme enough?!

19 STACEY (O.S., DISTANT)
Keeep goooing!!

Spud hangs his head, turns, and keeps walking.

EXT. SCHOOL SOFTBALL FIELD - SAME TIME

Spud keeps walking, becoming a dot on the horizon. Jake watches him go, frowning sympathetically.

20 STACEY
(calling to Spud)
Farther! Faaaarther!

Trixie shakes her head, leaning over to Jake.

21 TRIXIE
I hope the boy's got cab fare in
those gym shorts.

SMASH TO:

MAIN TITLES

ACT ONE

INT. SCHOOL CAFETERIA - DAY

Jake and Trixie sit down to lunch in the cafeteria. Trixie stares at her plate of nastiness.

22 TRIXIE
Yo, where is the Channel 12 expose
on this? I can't tell where the
meatloaf ends and the pudding
begins.

Spud plops down next to them, his face and hair covered in dirt and grass. Trixie gags at his appearance.

23 JAKE
Spud? What happened? I didn't
think you went down that hard when
you struck out the fourth time.

24 SPUD
I didn't. This is from Stacey
grinding my face into the infield
for losing the game. <cough>

He coughs out a clump of grass onto Trixie's lunch.

25 TRIXIE
See, that should be nasty, but it
actually makes it more appetizing.

26 SPUD
Of course, if I had *magical powers*,
maybe I'd have been the hero of the
game instead of the grass-grubber.

27 JAKE
Spud, it's not like magic suddenly
fixes everything for you. I mean,
I've still gotta eat the same nasty
cafeteria food as everybody el--

28 DELIVERY FAIRY (O.S.)
Pssst!

REVEAL - TWO DELIVERY FAIRIES discreetly perched on an open windowsill near their table. Fairy #1 reaches into a magic bag, pulls out a FIVE-COURSE MEAL, and hands it to Jake.

29 FAIRY
A little gift from the magical
community. Just our way of saying
thanks for all you do!

Spud shoots Jake a look. Jake shrugs, modestly as Fairy #2 gives Jake a copy of *MagicWeek* magazine.

30 JAKE
It's no big, really. I mean I---

Jake looks down at the cover of the mag. It's a picture of Dragon Jake. Jake changes his tune on a dime.

31 JAKE
Check it! I'm on the cover of
Magicweek again! Awesome!
(then, re: Spud)
-ish?

The fairies fly out the window as Spud slumps.

32 SPUD
Excuse me. I'm not hungry anymore.
Maybe I'll just go eat some more
dirt.

Spud gets up and walks off, dejected. Jake and Trixie watch him go with concern.

33 JAKE
Why's he all hung up on the AmDrag
jealousy all of a sudden?

34 TRIXIE
"All of a sudden?" Jakey, you're
out there every day saving the
world, while he's sneezing pizza
roll-ups out his nose and getting
his hands stuck in mittens. He
puts up a good front, but it's
gotta get to him sometimes.

35 JAKE
I guess I never thought about it
like that.

36 TRIXIE
His best friend is the biggest hero
he knows, and I am all love when I
say this, but that boy has got to
be the most straight-up, goofed-out
fool either of us know.

CUT TO:

INT. THE SCOOP - (RE-USE FROM EP. 214) - DAY

#88 and #89 burst through the doors of Magus Bazaar's magical tough guy hangout, trying to look as bad-ass as possible.

37 #89
What's shakin', magical chumps? As you may have heard, your fiercest enemy-the Huntsclan-has been wiped out. Obliterated. Finito...ed.

38 #88
Except for us. That's right. Now, we are the Huntsclan. So let all magical creatures tremble before...

#88 and #89 each throw a fist in the air.

39 #88/#89
Huntsclan Sentries #88 and 89!

There's a silent beat... then all of the MAGICAL CREATURES, (including a LEPRECHAUN and OGRE), laugh their guts out.

40 MAGICAL CREATURES
<mocking laughter walla: Nice pj's, laddies. / Me so terrible-fied.>

#88 and #89 look at each other, dumbfounded. #89 pulls out a sheet of paper, unfolds it and looks at it.

41 #89
Dude, we've spent months holed up in the Huntslair carefully orchestrating our comeback. So what happens if step one doesn't work out like we drew on the plans?

ON THE PAPER - Two crayon drawings. "STEP ONE": #88 and #89 make menacing poses in The Scoop's doorway. Magical creatures flee in terror. "STEP TWO": #88 and #89 on a stage playing twin guitars, covered in jewels and wearing crowns. Behind them, a banner reads "Kings of Earth" in a bad-ass heavy metal font.

ON 88 AND 89 - puzzling over the drawings.

42 #88
Maybe we should start smaller.

#89 walks up to a tiny PIXIE sitting at the ice cream bar. He pokes her in the shoulder.

43 #89
 You. Bow before your new kings,
 and perhaps we will take pity on y--

The pixie, completely unfazed, picks them both up and tosses them into a garbage can with one arm while she continues scooping ice cream into her mouth with the other.

44 #88/#89
 Yaaaah! <impact>

INSIDE THE GARBAGE CAN - #88 AND #89 are covered in trash.

45 #89
 This was a lot easier when we had
 the whole Huntsclan behind us.

46 #88
 There's gotta be some way we can
 get our own street cred.

47 #89
 Business cards maybe? I could draw
 us a wicked cool logo, like a clown
 with a hockey mask and a cricket
 bat--

48 #88
 (seeing something O.S.)
 Orrr... We do what the Huntsclan
 did! We capture our own magical
 creatures to show 'em all we mean
 business! Check this!

#88 grabs a piece of paper among the trash. It's a "Missing" poster with a picture of a LITTLE GIRL TROLL holding a MAGICAL FROG.

49 #89
 Catching a lost pet magical frog
 shows them all we mean business?

50 #88
 Baby steps, dude. Baby steps.

CUT TO:

EXT. SCHOOL - FRONT STEPS - DAY

Jake absentmindedly flips through his issue of *MagicWeek*.
 Trixie sits next to him, watching something O.S.

51 TRIXIE
Looks like it's worse than we
thought, Jakey.

PAN OVER to a piece of wall graffiti that reads "Spud's a loser." PAN FURTHER TO REVEAL that Spud's the one writing it, making the letters by smearing clumps of dirt he takes from his face and hair.

ON JAKE - looking up from the magazine.

52 JAKE
Yeah. Everybody knows not to mess
with Janitor Stumpy's wall.

ON SPUD'S DIRT GRAFFITI - PAN TO REVEAL JANITOR STUMPY holding a spray-nozzle garden hose. Deadpan, Stumpy raises the hose and blasts Spud with water.

53 SPUD
<sputtering noises>

54 JAKE
There's gotta be something we could
do to make him feel better.

55 TRIXIE
It's too bad our boy couldn't be a
hero just once, just so he'd know
what it feels like.

JAKE - noticing something O.S. Getting an idea.

56 JAKE
Maybe he can...

JAKE'S POV - on the back of his *MagicWeek* is the same
"Missing" poster that #88 and #89 were looking at.

FIVE-BOROUGH SUBWAY MAP TRANSITION TO:

EXT. FOGGY NATURE PRESERVE - NIGHT

PAN FROM - the outer edge of a housing development to a foggy, marshy nature preserve. PAN ENDS on Jake, Spud, and Trixie as they make their way through a swamp. Their flashlight beams criss-cross through the fog.

57 TRIXIE
According to the poster, this
magical swamp is where that troll
girl saw her frog hopping off to.

CLOSER ON THE TRIO - Trixie consults the "Missing" poster. Spud still looks a bit dejected. Jake looks around.

58 JAKE
That thing could be anywhere. And according to Gramps, this swamp isn't someplace you wanna be hanging out for too long. Spud, you're the genius here. Any ideas how to find it?

Spud slumps, gesturing to some moss.

59 SPUD
Not really. I'll just take a little lie-down in some moss and stay outta your way.

Jake and Trixie trade concerned looks - plan's not working so far. Spud starts to sit.

60 SPUD
Of course, the way these things usually go, the moss'll turn out to be some kind of swamp monster that'll come to life and swear revenge and you'll have to save the day. Again.

The second Spud hits the ground, the moss rises up, forming into a monstrous SWAMP CREATURE with long, mossy arms.

61 SWAMP CREATURE
Reveeeeeenge!!!

62 SPUD
(deadpan, defeated)
Called it.

Spud rises and walks O.S. as the Swamp Creature's mossy arm extends and wraps around Jake in a non-throat-or-head area.

63 JAKE/SWAMP CREATURE
<surprised yell>/ <roars>

ELSEWHERE IN THE SWAMP - #88 also searches around, holding the "Missing" poster.

64 #89 (O.S.)
Hey 88, I don't know if this thing's working.

#88 looks back.

65 #88
 A'course not! You gotta make him
 come to you. Put some sauce on
 that steak!

REVEAL #89 in a cheap, homemade "sexy" girl frog costume. He starts to dance lamely. In the distance, they hear the Swamp Creature's roars.

66 #88
 Hold up. You hear that?

BACK WITH JAKE, SPUD AND TRIXIE - Jake is DRAGONED UP and grappling with the Swamp Creature.

67 JAKE/SWAMP CREATURE
 <action noises>/ <roars>

68 TRIXIE
 (to Spud)
 Aren't we going to help him?

69 SPUD
 Sure, if he needs it.

Jake gets hold of the Creature's arm and judo throws it into the water. It disappears under the surface.

70 SPUD
 But I didn't think so.

Spud rests his head in his hands. Jake looks up at Trix and Spud and notices movement behind them. ZOOM IN ON THE MAGICAL FROG hopping under a bush.

71 JAKE
 Trix!

Jake nods toward the bush. Trixie turns, sees the frog, looks back at Jake, nods, and gives Spud a little shove in the direction of the bush.

72 SPUD
 <whooaa!> <oof!>

Spud face-plants in the bush, where he comes eye-to-eye with the magical frog. It CROAKS. Spud pops up.

73 SPUD
 Guys, I found him! He's right over--

Suddenly, #88 and #89 slide through frame on their bellies like it's a swamp waterslide. #88 snags the magical frog as they pass the bush.

74 #88/#89
Thanks for the frog, dog! / See ya!

75 SPUD
My frog!

Spud dives after them.

76 TRIxie
88 and 89? When did those chump
daddies come outta hiding?

As Jake responds, a LONG, MOSSY ARM surfaces behind him from underneath the water. It slithers menacingly behind him, getting closer and closer...

77 JAKE
Just like a late delivery at the
candy shop, I guess. Suckers gotta
show up sometime. <sigh> C'mon,
we'd better go-aaahHHHHH!

ON JAKE'S LEG - as he starts to move forward, the tenticle-like mossy arm wraps around his ankle and pulls him under.

78 TRIxie
Jakey!

After a beat, Dragon Jake and the multi-armed swamp creature emerge from the depths of the swamp locked in combat. Jake tries to free himself from its clutches.

79 SWAMP CREATURE
<screeching noises>

80 JAKE
<multiple struggling efforts>
C'mon, you nasty swamp creature!
Don't you know when to quit?

As Jake continues to struggle--

--#88, #89 and Spud slide into a clearing. The frog slips out of #88's grip and hops onto #89's head.

81 #89
AUGH! Frog on head! Get it off!

#89 bats it to #88, who catches it.

82 #88
Ew, slimy!

The frog slips out of #88's hands and hops back toward Spud.

83 SPUD
C'mere, you rascal!

Spud gets up and pounces, but he misses, sliding in the muck.

BACK ON JAKE - Still in the grip of the creature, Jake grabs hold of an overhead branch and blasts a fireball at the beast's face. The creature recoils, releasing Jake.

84 SWAMP CREATURE
<pained screech>

In a cool maneuver, Jake swings around the branch gymnast-style, and circles back, kicking it in the face.

85 SWAMP CREATURE
<more pained noises>

The beast is knocked to the marshy ground where it quickly slithers back under the water, in full retreat mode.

JAKE - lands next to Trixie, turning human in a swirl of FX.

86 JAKE
Okay, maybe this whole plan of ours
wasn't such a good idea...

Just then, Spud makes one last heroic leap, diving into the mud at their feet. He holds up his clasped, muddy hands, triumphant.

87 SPUD
Guys, I got it! Behold!

Spud opens his hands. All he's got is a handful of muck.

88 #89 (O.S.)
Looks like you "be-holding"
nothing!

WHIP TO #88 AND #89 - standing at the edge of the woods. 89 is holding the frog. He drops it into a BURLAP BAG.

89 #88
See ya times two, sucka!

#88 and #89 use their staffs to vault into the trees, where they quickly disappear into the fog.

Spud droops -- failed again. Jake and Trixie shake their heads sympathetically.

IN THE TREES

88 and 89 vault from tree-to-tree.

90 #88
Hold up. Why do you get to carry the frog?

91 #89
Because last time I checked, you were screaming, "Augh! Frog in hair! I'm scared of frogs like I'm scared of catfish and baby noses and cushion forts and..."

As they argue, the frog hops out of the bag.

IN THE CLEARING - the frog hops through the brush, landing on a tree stump next to Spud (he doesn't see it).

92 SPUD
Ah, failure... my oldest friend.
My rump needs a stump.

Spud starts to sit down on the tree stump...

FROG'S P.O.V.: Spud's rear end coming towards him.

The frog opens its mouth - it has HUGE, wolf-like teeth.

SPUD'S FACE - registers getting a painful bite on the ass.

93 SPUD
<pain scream>

Exasperated, Jake finally just grabs the frog himself and pops it in a jar, wrecking Spud's ego even more.

94 TRIxie
Well Spudinksi, look at it this way: you did get the frog "in the end."

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. UNDERGROUND HUNTSCLAN LAIR - NIGHT

#88 and #89 return to the lair. They're BOTH carrying the burlap bag, quite awkwardly. They put the burlap bag down on the console.

95 #89
Lair sweet lair. Now, let's have a
looksee at our little froggy woggy.

#89 opens the bag. There's nothing in it. #88 picks up a
stick and gingerly pokes the bag.

96 #88
Uh...maybe its magical ability is
making itself invisible?

SUBWAY MAP TRANSITION TO:

EXT. TROLL HOUSE - NIGHT

Jake, Trixie and Spud return the magical frog (it's in a
glass jar with holes poked in the top) to its LITTLE GIRL
TROLL owner (from the missing poster) and her TROLL MOTHER.

97 TROLL GIRL
You saved Rory Ribbit! You're the
best American Dragon ever!

The Troll Girl and her mother both hug Jake.

98 JAKE
Actually, my man Spud here did most
of the work--

99 TROLL MOTHER
Uh-huh. Would you like to stay for
dinner? I made a lasagne!

100 JAKE
Actually, I--

Jake is whisked inside, the door SLAMMING right in Spud's
face. Spud shrugs, turning to a sympathetic Trixie.

101 SPUD
It's okay, Trix. I guess I just
have to learn my place in life...

CUT TO:

EXT. SCHOOL PARKING LOT - THE NEXT DAY

Another P.E. softball game, and Spud's back out on the
parking lot sidewalk, looking through a pair of opera
glasses.

102 SPUD
At'sa batta, hey-there-batta, putta
one outta here batta... Can I getta
batta...? Any batta...? <sigh>

EXT. SCHOOL SOFTBALL FIELD - SAME TIME

The SCOREBOARD shows it's the bottom of the ninth, Stacey's team up by one. Brad's at bat with a man on third. Jake is pitching.

103 JAKE
So sad to be making you lose, Brad.
Or you could just forfeit now and
avoid the whole ugly crying thing.

104 BRAD
No way, loser. We're only down
one, and the Bradster's gonna punch
a two-run homer like he punches
anything that sasses him.

Jake winds up and throws his high heat. Brad takes a swing and connects with the ball with a CRACK! THE BALL sails through the air, way way out...

105 STUDENTS
<groans and cheers>

It looks to be a home run for sure... Until...

A speck of a body leaps high over the fence, catches the ball, and lands on the grass, revealing himself to be:

SPUD - not exactly as we know him: his leg muscles have ballooned up, and his flesh has a very faint green tint. He seems very impressed with himself.

106 SPUD
Whoa. Pop fly.

BLACK OUT.

END ACT ONE

ACT TWO

INT. GRANDPA'S SHOP - DAY

Jake, Trixie and Spud stand at the counter as FU DOG combs through a MAGICAL JOURNAL.

107 SPUD
Why are you all making such a big deal of this? I'm fine!

108 TRIXIE
Uh, Spud? Did you not notice you've had a few... body changes?

Spud looks down at himself.

109 SPUD
I don't see what's so-- FLY!!

A FLY <BUZZES> past in the air. Spud leaps onto a table and darts his freakishly long tongue out at it. The fly <ZIPS> out a window. Spud notices Jake and Trixie's disgust.

110 SPUD
(with tongue out)
I was just... saying hello.

FU DOG - turns the page of his journal as a 3-D HOLOGRAM OF A MAGICAL FROG is projected out of it.

111 FU DOG
Ah. Here we go. It looks like Biteykins here caught a case of Hominus Amphibulus.

112 JAKE
Homina-what-now?

113 FU DOG
(to Spud)
Translation: The frog's bite turned you into a werebeast: half-man, half-magical-creature. I'm guessing you've got all the powers of a human-sized frog.

114 SPUD
What?! Guys. Come on! I'm not a frog! That's-- That's just so--
<laughs, then a deep guffaw>

Spud starts to laugh it off, until his throat bulges out enormously on a deep guffaw. He stops, surprised.

115 SPUD
 I'm bulging, aren't I?
 (then, as his neck
 deflates)
 Okay. I'm gonna give your
 diagnosis a qualified "maybe."

Fu continues combing through the journal.

116 FU DOG
 It says here that there's an
 antidote, but it'll take some time
 to prepare. Think you can keep a
 low profile for a couple of days?

117 SPUD
 Pfft. Totally.
 (notices something)
 Ooh, lemon drops!

Spud's tongue shoots out of his mouth to the coffee table, where there's a JAR OF HARD CANDY. The tongue snags the jar and quickly reels it back into his mouth, bulging his cheeks out comically and bowling him over O.S. to the floor.

118 SPUD (O.S.)
 Ow.

Off everyone's look, we--

CUT TO:

INT. UNDERGROUND LAIR - DAY

#88 and #89 are slumped over the console, despondent over their incompetence.

119 #88
 We are never gonna get any respect!
 How are we supposed to make magical
 creatures run in fear when we can't
 even catch a stupid, dumb,
 worthless piece of magical frog?!!

In frustration, #88 smacks a wall with an open hand. At the point of impact, an electronic display lights up and a computerized voice comes from a hidden speaker.

120 COMPUTERIZED VOICE (V.O.)
 Analyzing palm print... Huntsclan
 birthmark authenticated... Opening
 vault...

A large bay door on the wall slides opening, revealing the Huntsclan's very impressive high-tech gear stash: vehicles, weapons, etc. #88 and #89 stare in awe.

121 #89
Whoa. Secret weapon stash. Now
that could come in handy.

88 and 89 walk through the vault, identifying equipment as they pass it.

122 #88
Magna-field generator... Hover-lev
troop carrier... Creature tracking
mini-computer...

88 hits a button on the mini-computer. It blinks to life.

123 COMPUTERIZED VOICE
Creature Tracker ST 1000 online...
What do you wish to track, master?

124 #89
Evil tech rocks! Dude, with this
stuff, we could even take on a
dragon!

The "creature tracking mini-computer" blinks to life.

125 COMPUTERIZED VOICE (V.O.)
Tracking... Dragon.

The computer projects a hologram of a fierce-looking dragon, which <ROARS ANGRILY> as it snaps at 88 and 89.

126 #88/#89
<girlie shrieks>

88 and 89 flee, run into a wall, and hit the ground.

127 #89
Or... or a magical frog.

128 #88
Yeah, frog's good.

The hologram morphs to a magical frog.

129 COMPUTERIZED VOICE (V.O.)
Tracking... Frog.

The hologram switches to a 3-D image of NYC, with two green flashing lights.

130 #88
Wait. It says there's two of 'em.
Which one do we follow?

131 #89
Let us summon the power of our evil
forefathers to advise us which
direction to take.

They close their eyes and wait. Nothing happens. 88 peeks
an eye open.

132 #88
Wanna just go for the one that's
closer?

133 #89
Works for me.

CUT TO:

EXT. SCHOOL - DAY

Jake and Trixie are walking up toward the school steps with
Spud, who can't stop staring at his greenish hand.

134 SPUD
Sure, it's a little freaky, but
this 'being magical' thing really
is pretty cool.
(admiring his legs)
And check out the way buffed quads.
I bet I could jump over the whole
school with these babies. You
gonna take that action, Jake?
C'mon, bet me bet me, I dare you--

135 JAKE
Yo Spud, I know it's exciting, but
you gotta keep it chilled.
Remember our story: the jump was
adrenaline, the green's a temporary
skin condition, and if the throat
bulges out again--

136 SPUD
Come on, Jake. It's not like I'm
out looking for trouble.

137 JAKE
Trust me. When you're magical,
trouble has a way of finding you.

The school's front door suddenly bursts open and Spud is mobbed by COACHES of the various Fillmore sports teams.

138 COACH #1
Hey kid, heard about your moves in
P.E. Ever think about joining the
basketball team?

139 COACH #2
I want you for track and field!

140 COACH #3
Swim team could sure use a pair of
legs like yours!

141 DANCE INSTRUCTOR
Forget them all! Leaping!
Mincing! You were born to dance!

Spud, startled and surrounded, looks to Jake for help.

142 SPUD
Uh, Jake...?

143 JAKE
Low profile, dude.

144 COACH #1/COACH #2/COACH #3
Just name your demands! You want a
private whirlpool tub, you got it!/
I can get you out of social
studies! C'mon kid, we need you!/

Spud looks back at all the eager faces, then smiles.

145 SPUD
Please, form an orderly line!
There's enough of me to go around.

The coaches jostle for position as they form a line.

146 JAKE
(to Trixie)
Not exactly what I meant.

CUT TO:

INT. SCHOOL - BASKETBALL COURT - MONTAGE - DAY

ON THE COURT - Spud dribbles a basketball down the court.

POV: THREE HUGE BASKETBALL PLAYERS come straight for him.

Spud takes a leap that sends him over their heads and halfway across the court, right to the basket. Spud dunks the ball.

The crowd goes wild.

INT. SCHOOL - POOL AREA - MONTAGE CONT'D - DAY

SEVERAL SWIMMERS (including Spud) in racing trunks which provide adequate coverage are lined up on blocks; a gun FIRES. Spud dives into the water and bolts across in less than a second. By the time the other swimmers reach the end, Spud is already out of the pool and drying off, with a CUTE GIRL holding a drink for him as he sips it through a straw. ***

An even bigger crowd goes nuts.

INT. SCHOOL GYMNASIUM - MONTAGE CONT'D - DAY

PAN ACROSS the matching robes of the FILLMORE SCHOOL CHOIR as they sing:

147 FILLMORE CHOIR
(singing)
...Froggy went a-courtin' and he
did ride/ Sword and a buckler by
his side...

END ON SPUD - in choir garb, taking the last line solo.

148 SPUD
(singing)
Froggy went a-courtin' and he did
ride uh-huuuuuuuuuh!

As he holds the final note, his throat bulges huge and the whole auditorium SHAKES with bass rumble.

The full-capacity crowd erupts.

149 STUDENTS
<thunderous cheers>

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. SCHOOL CAFETERIA - DAY

Jake and Trixie stand in line with Spud, who's getting high-fived and glad-handed by every kid that passes by.

150 STUDENTS
Hey, Spud Man!/ You're my hero!/ I
hope your skin gets better!

Spud turns to Jake.

151 SPUD
I'm a school hero! How come you
never told me how cool this was?!

152 JAKE
Yeah, it's cool now, but when it
comes to magic, there's always a
trade-off.

153 SPUD
Like what?

154 TRIXIE
Yeah, Jakey. I gotta tell you, I'm
startin' to think I should get
myself bitten by some kinda magical
butterfly or something. My wings
would be so pretty...

155 JAKE
Okay, what about how I could never
get together with Rose? What good
are magical powers when you can't
be with the girl you want?

Just ahead of them, Stacey complains to a friend in line:

156 STACEY
I hope they don't run out of tacos.

While she's not looking, Spud uses his tongue to grab the
last two tacos. He hands them to her with a flourish.

157 SPUD
M'lady.

158 STACEY
Thanks... Spud!

She gives him a flirty smile. Spud turns to Jake and Trixie,
practically squealing.

159 SPUD
She knows my name! Really not
seeing the downside here, amigo.
(to Stacey)
Shall we enjoy our own private
snacky fiesta?

Spud holds an arm out to Stacey. She takes it. As they walk off together, Jake gets a call on his magical cell. The readout says "FU DOG." Jake answers.

160 JAKE
Bark at me, Fu.

161 FU DOG (O.S.. FILTERED)
Hey, kid. The werefrog antidote's ready. Get your slimy green friend over here, pronto.

Jake looks up at Spud, who's over at the popular kids' table with Stacey, holding court and happy to be the center of attention. Jake hangs up the phone.

162 JAKE
With pleasure.

ON SPUD - mobbed by admirers.

163 SPUD
...and so the snail says, "No, that's just my mucopolysaccharide slime trail!"

164 STUDENTS
<exaggerated, forced laughter/ "You the man, Spud!"/ "He's so funny!">

Jake and Trixie elbow their way through the crowd to Spud.

165 JAKE
Yo Spud, we gotta bounce. Fu says the antid--
(catching himself)
--the "medicine" for your "little problem" is ready.

Jake uses finger "air-quotes" when he speaks in code. Spud looks deflated for a moment, then defiant.

166 SPUD
Oh. And what if I told you I didn't want to take my "medicine"?

Spud also uses air-quotes.

167 JAKE
Say what?

168 SPUD
I see how it is now. You want me
to take the "medicine" because you
can't stand anybody else having a
"little problem!"

169 TRIXIE
Spudinski...

170 SPUD
No! This "problem" is the best
thing that ever happened to me, and
if you're too jealous to handle it,
well you can keep your "medicine"
and I'll keep my "problem!"

Stacey wipes away a tear.

171 STACEY
So brave...

172 JAKE
Have it your way!

173 SPUD
I "will"!

Jake and Trixie back down, stunned. Spud turns to the crowd,
fingers still stuck in air quote position.

174 SPUD
Does anybody have any ice? My
fingers are killing me!

CUT TO:

EXT. NYC STREET - DAY

Spud walks home with his new posse of hangers-on.

175 STACEY
So the green thing, that's like,
not contagious if we, y'know, kiss
or anything, right?

Spud shrugs, putting an arm around her.

176 SPUD
I'm willing to find out for
science.

Suddenly #88 and #89 jump out, eyes glued to their tracking
mini-computer. Both wear backpacks.

177 #88
Halt, you magical...

#88 and #89 look up to see Spud.

178 #89
...Frog?

179 SPUD
<surprised yell>

#88 & #89 turn to each other, confused.

180 COMPUTERIZED VOICE (V.O.)
Identity... confirmed.

181 #88
Okay, no way this thing's workin'
right. He ain't a frog, he's that
chump from the swamp!

#88 <SMACKS> the side of the device.

182 COMPUTERIZED VOICE (V.O.)
Please stop... hitting me. I
thought we were... friends.

183 #89
Huntstech's never wrong. Let's get
this freak to the Scoop!

88 and 89 remove their backpacks and start unloading and
assembling weapons. Stacey clutches Spud's arm, afraid.

184 STACEY
Spuddy... Do something!

185 SPUD
Do something? Right... That is
what heroes do, isn't it? FROGGIN'
UP!

Spud strikes a dramatic hero pose. Of course, nothing
happens. Except the stares from everyone.

186 SPUD
Oh. Right.

187 #89
Get him!

88 and 89 fire ENERGY BLASTS from their weapons. Spud
narrowly leaps out of the way. Stacey and the others flee.

188 STUDENTS/STACEY
<shrieking terror>

189 #88/#89/SPUD
<battle cries, action noises>

Spud jumps into battle, narrowly dodging the <BLASTS> fired from 88 and 89's Huntsclan weapons. In mid-jump, he kicks 88 into a wall and tongue-punches 89 to the floor.

190 #89
Ew, my mouth was open!

Spud jumps and flips around, getting into it.

191 SPUD
I can't believe I'm actually doing this! This is the greatest feeling of my life! Better than a hundred birthdays plus that time I saw a chimp throw up!

#88 and #89 sit up, woozy.

192 #88
Bring out the big ones?

193 #89
Yep.

#88 and #89 each lift up a BAZOOKA-ESQUE WEAPON. From each weapon spurts forth a beam of energy. #88 and #89 aim the beams towards each other. When the beams connect they create a glowing energy ball. #88 and #89 swing the ball toward Spud, sucking him inside of it like a prison.

194 SPUD
Ow! Hey! Nobody said there was going to be pain!

#88 and #89 approach the prison, gloating.

195 #88
Peekaboo, freakaboo.

196 SPUD
Aw, <croaaaaak!>

FADE OUT.

END ACT TWO

ACT THREE

EXT. NYC STREET - DAY

Jake and Trixie walk home from school as Stacey comes running down the street.

197 STACEY
Ohmigosh ohmigosh ohmi<scream>!

198 JAKE
Stacey?

199 TRIXIE
She break a nail or something?

Stacey stops in front of Jake and Trixie.

200 STACEY
Somebody help me!

201 JAKE
What happened?

202 STACEY
These two guys jumped us who knew
Spud from some swamp and they said
they were gonna take him somewhere
called the Scoop and then Spud
started to fight but they shot
these glowing energy beams that
were so shimmery and pretty but
actually really scary and then when
I was running away I scraped Pinky
Lefty against a brick wall and now
she's ruined!!!

Stacey holds up her left pinky finger. The nail is ground down in one spot.

203 TRIXIE
Mm-hm, told you...

204 JAKE
Come on!

Jake and Trixie rush off. Stacey cradles her chipped nail.

205 STACEY
Are you calling the nail
ambulance?! Okay, I'll... I'll
wait here then...

CUT TO:

INT./EXT. THE SCOOP - DAY

#88 and #89 once more burst through the doors of The Scoop, bearing their electro-bazooka thingies (which are pointed outside the doors).

206 #88
Yo, magic fools! We heard you missed us.

207 MAGICAL CREATURES/ORGE
<laughter> Hey! Funny guys back now!

208 #89
Funny, huh? Well laugh at this, ugly!

88 and 89 swing their bazookas to the bar interior, bringing the glowing light ball inside... with Spud trapped within.

209 #88
Feast your eyes upon the first creature to suffer our wrath: the mighty magical frog-boy!

The patrons eye the trapped Spud, who waves.

210 CYCLOPS
What? We're supposed to run in terror cause you caught some half-frog kid?

211 #89
No, you're supposed to run in terror cause we caught some half-frog kid with these.

In unison, 88 and 89 whip out matching dangerous-looking weapons and <BLAST> two gaping holes in the roof. Panic breaks out in The Scoop.

212 MAGICAL CREATURES
<panicked walla: Stars and clovers!/ Have mercy!/ I'm afraid for us all!>

Magical patrons spill out to the streets. #88 and #89 stand proudly amidst the pandemonium.

213 #88
This... is... AWESOME!

214 #89
 Yeah!
 (to Spud)
 Thanks for helping us establish a
 mean rep, frog-man.

215 #88
 Unfortunately, we're still gonna
 have to put a major hurt on you if
 it's gonna stick.

#89 rolls out a case filled with what looks like the tools of
 Hell's resident dentist.

216 #89
 So whaddaya think's gonna make the
 biggest headlines? Brain-O-Smash?
 The Gutsploder? Jaggly-Toothed
 Rotary Shredder?

ON SPUD - green skin going pale white.

217 SPUD
 (desperately pleading)
 Maybe something with "pillow" or
 "tickle" in the title?

#88 picks up an innocent-looking device...

218 SPUD
 Oh, that doesn't look so--

...which suddenly unfolds into a Swiss Army Knife of pain and
 gouging.

219 SPUD
 <fear yell>

220 JAKE (O.S.)
 Better put the toys away, kids.

Startled, #88 and #89 look over to:

THE DOORWAY - where Dragon Jake and Trixie stand.

221 JAKE
 It's time for the big boys to play.

ON #88 AND #89 - their usual terror.

222 #88/#89
 D-d-d-dragoon!

88 pauses, looking at the weapons in their hands.

223 #88
Hey, wait. We've got all the power
of the Huntsclan now. We don't
have to be afraid any more!

224 #89
I don't know that we ever had to.
It just always felt natural.
ATTACK!

88 and 89 fire weapons at the doorway, forcing Jake and
Trixie to dive for cover underneath tables. The doorway is
obliterated by the force of the blast.

225 JAKE/TRIXIE
Whooooaaa!

88 and 89 go on the hunt. #89 jumps on top of a table and
hops from table to table, aiming his Huntsclan weapon beneath
him. Jake and Trixie are nowhere to be seen.

226 #89
I thought we were gonna play big
boy games. Don't you know hide and
seek is for babies?

227 #88
Dude, they'd have to be pretty
smart babies to get the concept of
hide and seek.

228 #89
Yeah, that's true, I gue-- Shut up!
(looking)
Where'd they go?

UNDERNEATH THE TABLES - Jake and Trixie crawl up to Spud's
energy cage. They speak in whispers.

229 TRIXIE
(re: the cage)
What is this thing?

230 SPUD
It's some kind of energy field
created by those two bazooka
thingies over there. If you show
me the control panel, I can
probably figure out a way to
reprogram the polarity and shut it--

Jake breathes TWO FIREBALLS, which slag the field-generating weapons, freeing Spud.

231 SPUD
Right. Magical powers.

232 JAKE
Yeah, they are good for a few things.

233 #88 (O.S.)
There they are!

ENERGY BLASTS strike all around the gang.

234 JAKE
(to Spud)
Speaking of magical powers... You mind?

He thumbs over toward #88 and #89. Spud smiles.

235 SPUD
It'd be a dream come true.

236 JAKE/SPUD
<attacking noises>

Jake and Spud pop up and attack #88 and #89. Fists, feet, fireballs, lasers and froggy tongue are flying everywhere.

UNDERNEATH THE TABLE - Trixie remains in hiding.

237 TRIXIE
I'll just let y'all finish your business.

ABOVE - in mid-battle, #89's energy weapon <FIZZLES OUT>.

238 #89
I'm jammed! 88! Toss me another weapon!

#88 runs to his backpack, takes something out and throws it to #89, who looks at it. It's an unimpressive stick.

239 #89
You fetched me a stick?!

240 #88
I dunno, I panicked.

Suddenly, a bolt of energy flashes out of the stick. It forms into a hand, grabs Jake, and throws him hard out the hole where the door used to be.

241 JAKE
<whooooooooaaaaa, impact>

OUTSIDE THE SCOOP - Jake <SLAMS> into a wall, out cold.

INSIDE - #89 looks at the stick, impressed, then at #88.

242 #89
Good boy!

88 and 89 turn their attention (and the stick) to Spud.

243 SPUD
Oh, boy.

244 TRIXIE
Come on, Spudinski!

Trixie grabs Spud and flees, just missing another blast from 88 and 89. 89 drops the stick, picks up an even more dangerous-looking weapon, and he and 88 follow them out to--

EXT. MAGUS BAZAAR - CONTINUOUS

Trixie and Spud duck into a dark alley, hiding in shadows.

245 SPUD
(whispering)
I think we're okay. There's no way
they saw us duck in here.

Suddenly, the glow of an energy weapon swings around, illuminating #88's grin.

246 #88
Boo.

247 SPUD/TRIXIE
<fear yells>

Spud wraps an arm around Trixie and leapfrogs straight up into the sky, narrowly dodging an energy blast.

ON A MARKET STALL - Trixie and Spud dive behind the stall. A beat later, the stall is VAPORIZED by a weapon blast, leaving Spud and Trixie totally exposed.

248 SPUD/TRIXIE
<fear yells>

They hop to safety again.

INT. EMPTY STORE - MOMENTS LATER

Spud and Trixie run inside and shut the door behind them.

249 TRIXIE
How do they keep finding us?!
Those two pudding-brained monkey
boys cannot be that smart!

Through the door, we hear--

250 COMPUTERIZED VOICE (O.S.)
Frog on... your left. (beat) That
one's... not left.

251 #88 (O.S.)
I knew that, you stupid machine!

Spud turns to Trixie, wearing a look of sudden realization.

252 SPUD
(sotto)
Of course! When they found me
before, they had some kind of
tracking device! There's no way to
lose them with that thing locked
onto my magical creature keister!

253 TRIXIE
(thinking)
Unless... you stopped being a
magical creature.

Trixie reaches into her pocket and pulls out a VIAL OF GREEN LIQUID.

254 SPUD
The antidote?

255 TRIXIE
We picked it up before we came
over. Thought you might've changed
your mind about the whole being a
magical hero thing.

Spud takes the vial, looks at it for a long, hesitant beat.

256 SPUD
Well, here goes everything...

He downs the liquid.

257 SPUD
<gulp> Mmm, wintergreen! <sudden
gagging noises>

Spud gags, twitches, and morphs back into his normal self.

EXT. MAGUS BAZAAR - SAME TIME

Suddenly, Spud drops off #88 and #89's tracking computer.

258 COMPUTERIZED VOICE (V.O.)
No magical frogs... in this area.

259 #89
What? Where'd he go then?

260 #88
Whatever. Just... re-calibrate it
to find the dragon.

Behind their backs, a slightly battered and bruised Dragon
Jake touches down.

261 JAKE
Or you could just turn around.

88 and 89 spin around and start to raise their weapons, but
Jake melts the blasters with his dragon fire. He pulls out
the stick that #89 had earlier.

262 JAKE
Maybe you'd like a nice game of
fetch.

He points the stick at them.

263 #88/#89
<terror yells>

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. SCHOOL LOCKER ROOM - NEXT DAY

Jake and Spud (in P.E. wear) tie up their shoes.

264 JAKE
Sorry you had to give up the hero
business, Spud. It was kinda fun
having a partner for a while.

265 SPUD
Oh, I don't know that I've given up
the hero business.
(MORE)

SPUD (CONT'D)

Sure, I'm my own Spud-ical self again, and I'm cool with that now - mo' magic, mo' problems. But I'd like to think there's a hero moment out there for every dude and dude-ette with a heart of gold and the skills to--

Brad, in P.E. clothes, walks up to the student EQUIPMENT MANAGER, who carries a clipboard and a netted bag of balls.

266 BRAD

Hey equipment dork! Coach says to check me out a football!

267 EQUIPMENT MANAGER

I-- I'm all out of--

Brad grabs the kid's shirt and raises a fist.

268 BRAD

Are you sassin' the Bradster?!

Jake starts to go to the defense of the kid, but Spud holds him back, waving it off - "I got this one."

269 SPUD

Hey, Brad! Extra footballs are in locker A96.

Brad releases the kid and storms O.S. The kid approaches Spud and Jake.

270 EQUIPMENT MANAGER

Thanks. But there aren't any footballs in--

O.S. <LOCKER SHAKING>

271 BRAD

Stupid locker! Are you sassin' the Bradster?!

<BANG!> Brad punches the locker O.S., and a moment later, we hear the sound of equipment falling onto him.

272 BRAD (O.S.)

(with pain hits)

Soccer! Baseball! Tennis!

Curling?! When did we get a--<ow!>

The kid looks at Spud in awe.

273 EQUIPMENT MANAGER
You are my new hero.

Spud beams proudly. Jake smiles at him, impressed.

274 SPUD
Yeah. I know.

Spud lifts his leg to rest his foot up on a locker room bench, posing dramatically as we:

FADE OUT.

OVER BLACK

275 JAKE (O.S.)
Uh, Spud...? There's powdered
gelatin spilling out of your shorts
pocket.

276 SPUD (O.S.)
Shhh. Hero moment.

END SHOW